



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **District Man Sentenced to 47 Years in Prison For Murder, Obstruction Charges in 2003 Slaying of Homeless Man - He and Another Man Beat Victim, Then Shot Him As He Begged For His Life -**

WASHINGTON - Alfred Evans, 28, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced today to 47 years in prison on charges stemming from the April 2003 murder of a 35-year-old homeless man, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Evans was convicted by a jury in April 2011 of charges of first degree felony murder while armed and obstruction of justice. He was sentenced by the Honorable Lynn Leibovitz in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

According to the government's evidence, Evans, who uses the nickname "Stink," and Frank Johnson, who uses the nickname "J.R.," killed the victim, Reginald Brighthart, in the early morning hours of April 7, 2003. Johnson first attacked Mr. Brighthart at an apartment in the 2800 block of Robinson Place SE, initiating the attack to degrade the victim, who was a known substance abuser. Once Mr. Brighthart was weakened, Evans joined in the attack, helping to drag the defenseless victim down a stairwell while beating him. He then handed Mr. Brighthart a towel and forced him to clean up his own blood from the hallway.

Finally, he and Johnson chased Mr. Brighthart into an abandoned apartment within the building. There, he and Johnson forced Mr. Brighthart to put his head in a toilet and beg for his children before they shot him to death.

Evans later attempted to obstruct justice by placing phone calls from his jail cell in hopes of silencing a witness against him.

Johnson, now 31, was convicted for his role in this murder following a jury trial in 2009. He was sentenced to 48 years in prison by the Honorable Herbert B. Dixon, Jr.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen commended the efforts of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Cold Case/Major Case Detectives Darryl Richmond and Mitchell Credle, and Mobile Crime Officers Kemper Agee, James Savage and Kevin Jeter. Detective Richmond was praised for his tenacity in investigating this case. Detectives Richmond and Credle were also lauded for obtaining two statements from Evans which proved instrumental in this verdict. U.S. Attorney Machen also commended the work of U.S. Attorney's Office employees Paul Howell, Thomas (Ron) Royal, Kimberley Smith, Joshua Ellen, and William Henderson of the Litigation Support Services Unit; Paralegal Alesha Matthews Yette, and Victim Witness Assistant Unit Security Specialist Maretta L. Forrest. He further commended Assistant U.S. Attorneys Deborah Sines and Michelle Jackson, who were involved in the investigation and presentation of evidence during several trials involving this murder.

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